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Economic and Social Council

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Commission for Social Development
Forty-fifth session
7-16 February 2007
Agenda item 6
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fifth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Hedda **Samson** (Netherlands)

Chapter ____
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its forty-fifth session at United Nations Headquarters on 22 March 2006 and from 7 to 16 February 2007. The Commission held ___ meetings (1st to ___).

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by representatives of ____ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.5/2007/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

3. In its decision 2002/210, the Economic and Social Council decided that immediately following the closure of a regular session, the Commission would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chairperson and other members of the Bureau. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 22 March 2006 and 7 February 2007, in pursuance of that decision, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

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Chairperson:
Mehdi Danesh-Yazdi (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Vice-Chairpersons:
Francis Lorenzo (Dominican Republic)
Hedda Samson (Netherlands)
Joyce Kafanabo (United Republic of Tanzania)
Volodymyr Pekarchuk (Ukraine)

4. At its 2nd meeting, on 7 February, the Commission designated Vice-Chairperson Samson to also assume the responsibilities of Rapporteur for the session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 7 February, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.5/2007/1 as orally revised. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Priority theme: promoting full employment and decent work for all;
   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
      (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
      (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
      (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
      (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;
   (c) Emerging issues: "Youth employment: impact, challenges and opportunities for social development".
4. Programme questions and other matters:
   (a) Programme performance and implementation for the biennium 2004-2005;
   (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009;
   (c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.
5. Provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fifth session.

6. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work as contained in document E/CN.5/2007/1, annex I, as orally revised.

E. Documentation

7. The list of documents before the Commission at its forty-fourth session is contained in annex ____ to the present report.

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7-16 February 2007
Item 5 of the provisional agenda
Provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Commission

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-sixth session of the Commission

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Promoting full employment and decent work for all;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting full employment and decent work for all

   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
   (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
   (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
   (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing;
   (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth

Report of the Secretary-General on the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

   (c) Emerging issues.
4. Provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session of the Commission.
5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-sixth session.

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Commission for Social Development
Forty-fifth session
7-16 February 2007
Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution: Pakistan*

Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Recalling* the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world', held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

"*Reaffirming* the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[2] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[3] of 16 September 2002, General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and its support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

"*Welcoming* the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 Mach 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[2] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] General Assembly resolution 57/2.

07-23756 (E) 140207

"*Recognizing* the commitments made in meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[4]

"*Remaining concerned* that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

"*Bearing in mind* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that their development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development[5] to the New Partnership,

"1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[3] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

"2. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in some countries and the completion of the self-assessment process, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of the national preparatory process for the Peer Review in others, and urges African States to join the Peer Review, as a matter of priority, and to strengthen the Peer Review process to ensure its efficient performance;

"3. *Further welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

"4. *Recalls* that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase their support to enhance the capacities of these institutions;

"5. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including

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[4] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7).

measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

"6. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

"7. *Further emphasizes* that rising poverty levels and social exclusion faced by most African countries require significant changes in the development of social policy and the need for comprehensive social policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty and ensure employment creation, social inclusion, political stability and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, to achieve Africa's social and economic objectives;

"8. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

"9. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation on 4 and 5 November 2006 and the Africa-Latin America Summit, held in Abuja on 30 November and 1 December 2006, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through triangular cooperation;

"10. *Acknowledges* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, including those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Africa Action Plan of the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, including the Africa-Asia Business Forum, the report of the Commission for Africa entitled *Our Common Interest* and the Africa Partnership Forum, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa;

"11. *Urges* continuous support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and the transfer of technology;

"12. *Welcomes* the recent increase in official development assistance pledged by many of the development partners, including the commitments of the Group of Eight and the European Union, which will lead to an increase in official development assistance to Africa of 25 billion dollars per year by 2010, and encourages all development partners to ensure aid effectiveness through the implementation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability of 2005;[6]

[6] Available at http://www1.worldbank.org/harmonization/PARIS/FINALPARISDECLARATION.pdf.

"13. *Recognizes* the need for national Governments and the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

"14. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely with the priorities of the New Partnership, as reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

"15. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

"16. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

"17. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the New Partnership Secretariat and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

"18. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect, acknowledges recent commitments by some donor countries;

"19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and requests the Office to collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and to include the social dimensions of the New Partnership in its comprehensive reports to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

"20. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to discuss in its annual programme of work, regional programmes to promote social development to enable all regions of the United Nations system to share experiences and best practices, with the concurrence of concerned countries;

"21. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and its implementation during its forty-sixth session, and in this regard, requests the Commission to provide recommendations on the measures to achieve this during the policy session of 2008."